nine teaching posts are filled up on permanent basis and the remaining are manned by part time teaching faculty. The various teaching posts at N.I.H. Calcutta have been created as per the laid down norms of Central Council of Homoeopathy and the recruitment rules, pay scales etc. have accordingly been framed. The post of Director at N.I.H. Calcutta cannot be filled up on a regular basis due to stay order of the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta, in the matter.

Education to All

3740. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA:
SHRI UDHAB BARMAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enrole all the children below the age of 14 years in the schools by the year 2005;

(b) if so, whether the Government have chalked out any action-plan in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):(a) to (c). The National Policy on Education, 1986, as modified in 1992, envisages that free and compulsory education of satisfactory quality would be provided to all children up to 14 years of age before we enter the twenty-first century. The Programme of Action 1992 for implementation of the policy provides for several key strategies to achieve universalisation of elementary education which include (i) Disaggregated target setting and decentralised planning for addressing the specific needs of backward areas and disadvantaged groups; (ii) Adoption of alternative channels of schooling, particularly non-formal education; (iii) Microplanning through involvement of teachers and community for universal access, participation and retention; (iv) Introduction of Minimum Levels of Learning (MLLs) in schools to improve learner's achievement; (v) Strengthening of teacher training programmes; and (vi) Improvement of school facilities.

Nutritious Food

3741. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a scheme for promotion of nutritious food among the vulnerable sections of the society;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government is already engaged in promoting use of nutritious food among the vulnerable sections of the society through the programmes of the Department of Women and Child Development. Some of the notable interventions include nutrition education and training activities, development and promotion of nutritious foods through State Governments, community based production of nutritious foods through non-governmental organisations and the nationwide Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme etc.

Enhancement of Tuition fee by Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi

3742. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi has raised the tuition fee from rupees six hundred per annum to rupees eighteen thousand per annum;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether due to the high enhancement of the tuition fee the students belonging to weaker sections of the society either do not take admission in the Institute, or discontinue their studies; and

(d) if so, the action, the Government have taken/propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi, increased the tuition fee for the first time in 1988-89 from Rs. 600/- to Rs. 1500/-. The fee was subsequently raised to Rs. 3,000/- in 1991-92, Rs. 12,000/- in 1994-95 and Rs. 16,000/- in 1996-97. The Govt. of Bihar has not been able to provide to the Institute committed support to meet expenses on account of revision of pay-scale, DA increase etc. from time to time. To meet the resource gap the Institute revised fees accordingly.

(c) No such case has come to the notice of the Institute.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Effect of CTBT on Indo-American Trade Relations

3743. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: